

CHLORAL AND STRYCHNINE.—Dr. Liebreich establishes a comparison between these two substances, in the *Berliner Kl. Woch.*, No. 43, 1870; and finds that they neutralise each other. As the symptoms of poisoning by strychnine are very similar to those of tetanus, chloral would be a sovereign remedy for the latter, if its effects could be made to extend longer than the pathological irritation (actual nature unknown) which gives rise to tetanus. Great improvement is, however, obtained by using the hydrate, as it seems to change the forms of the complaint from the acute to the chronic, a change very likely to be followed by a cure. The salt should be given in the forms of enema, and the dose may vary from 37 to 75 grains. Full doses should be given at once. Hypodermic injections are only exceptionally to be used; but the author states that his injections with the platino-iridium syringe never were followed by abscess.—*Lancet*.

DEATH OF DR. KEITH, OF ABERDEEN.—This distinguished surgeon died at Edinburgh on the 5th ult. His experience in lithotomy was perhaps larger than that of any of his contemporaries, and his success in that operation was remarkable. A most distinguished operating surgeon and an able teacher, he was above the petty prejudices which too often mar the fame of otherwise good and noble men, and was one of the first to acknowledge the good to be derived from acupuncture, though that admirable mode of arresting hæmorrhage was not derived from strictly surgical parentage. In conjunction with Dr. Pirie he published an important work on this subject, which may yet serve to give this simple and effective procedure its true position in surgery. Dr. Keith was greatly loved as a man as well as a surgeon, and few will be more missed among his contemporaries of the granite city.—*Edinburg Med. Jour.*

INCONTINENCE CURED BY CHLORAL HYDRATE.—Dr. William Thomson reports (*Lancet*, Nov. 19, 1870) two cases of this. One was in a girl, æt. 12, who suffered for two years with incontinence at night, and frequent desire to pass her urine during day time. Fifteen grains of the chloral, given at bedtime for two nights, relieved her; and the medicine was then continued in ten-grain doses for a fortnight, at the end of which time she was cured.

The second case was a boy, æt. 13, who had suffered from nocturnal incontinence for seven years. Fifteen grains of chloral given at bedtime at once relieved him; but the medicine was continued for a fortnight, when he was quite well, and continued so when last seen, three weeks afterward.—*American Journal of Medical Sciences*.